



INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF RHODE ISLAND

...through friendship, a world of understanding

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR – RISA GILPIN

We've had an exceptionally busy and productive spring – lots of terrific events bringing out the best we have to offer. It's a pleasure to witness the House as an active and thriving entity – fulfilling our mission of orchestrating cross-cultural exchange – providing a sense of belonging for international students and visitors and working towards creating a community of global citizens, who understand the notion of connection through conversation. This, I think, is the only way to make positive change in our world – good people to good people.

Of particular note this season were the following: “A Lively Conversation” with Providence Mayor Jorge Elorza and City of Providence Economic Development Director Mark Huang on Thursday, April 21, 2016, sponsored by our wonderful members Pamelee and Ray Murphy. We learned about the City of Providence's efforts to form international alliances and build stronger relationships with international students and faculty currently in Rhode Island. We had a full house and our guests were happy to have this opportunity to hear about the global outlook of local officials, and we were happy to introduce our House to many who can benefit from our services. The tasty reception was catered by Happy Spoon Home Cookin'. Thank you, thank you to Pam and Ray for organizing and supporting this effort to bring increased light shining through our doors. In preparation for this event, I also was able to reach out to members of IERI (an association of International Educators of Rhode Island comprised of the folks who administer programs at all RI colleges and universities for international exchange) and many brought along groups of their own students to hear the Mayor and Director Huang's presentation. It was

great to have the different colleges and universities represented here, many of these guests coming into the House for the first time.



Mayor Jorge Elorza



Pamelee & Raymond Murphy

Wednesday, April 27, 2016 marked the return of *Meal and a Spiel* host Elana Horwich, a graduate of Brown's Italian Studies Department, who has a cooking school in California. Mona Delgado organized this excellent hands-on cooking demo, where Elana prepared Persian Lamb and Pistachio Meatballs in a Pomegranate Glaze with Cucumber Rose Yogurt; and Avocado Chocolate Mousse. A treat for all who attended.



Group Photo of Elana's afficiandos

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Our Czech Republic Dinner (Česká večeře) took place on Friday, April 29, 2016, a tasty and traditional meal created by Monika Kučerová and Václav Kučera. Mako Fidler presented a piece for piano from the New World Symphony by Antonin Dvorak.

On Friday, May 6, 2016 we presented A WORLD OF THANKS tribute, honoring Dorothy Rooke McCulloch, for her philanthropic passion and dedication to the mission of International House; and also honoring our veteran volunteer teachers Laura Bell, Cal Krichmar, and Nancy Marcucci, for their length of service and mentoring achievements in our global community. The delicious meal was catered by Los Andes Restaurant with their creative Bolivian/Peruvian cuisine, including ***Paella***, ***Lomo Saltado***, and ***el Vegetariano***. Musician/singers Mariarosa Rivera, from Venezuela (and one of our English Language



Dorothy McCulloch and Lynda Musilwa

students) and Felipe Rosario, from the Dominican Republic sang a melodious repertoire of boleros and ballads. Sponsors for this successful event, which netted \$6,500 for the House included the following – (we greatly appreciate your support!):

Gold Sponsors (\$500) - John and Letitia Carter; Jian Chen; Robert and Pamela Faulkner

Silver Sponsors (\$250+) - Mark and Christina Ardente; Henry Collins Jr.; Jim and Sally Cregan; Risa Gilpin; John Harker – Harker Family Charitable Trust; Jean Lewis Keith; Norman and Dorothy McCulloch, through the McAdams Charitable Foundation; F. Paul Mooney and Nancy Rogers; Carolyn B. and Arthur Parker; Katherine D. Richardson; Sarah and Craig Richardson; Eugene and Lucy Tortolani

Tribute Donors - Christine Anderson; Mr. and Mrs. William B. Anderson; Priscilla Angelo and John Eng Wong; Patricia and John Biasuzzi; Anthony and Esther Caran; Mary Chase; William and Tracy Daugherty; John and Patricia Deal; Mary Mai Donohue; Lisa Fertik; John and Joan Flynn; Sonia

Galletti; Dorothy James; G.H. and Anne Hartman; Ethel M Macquarrie; Henry Majewski; Ruth Prager; Aida Sahakian; Muriel Shedd; William A. Shuey; Marilyn Singleton; and Barbara Sturtevant.



Cal Krichmar, Nancy Marcucci, Linda Breslin, Angie Margiotta, Risa Gilpin, Tedd Lodi, Maggie Miles

Speaking of our teachers we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our teachers and tutors – their volunteer efforts continue to astonish us with the dedication and devotion offered to the art of teaching English to speakers of other languages. Every Tuesday and Thursday, Angie Margiotta runs our Advanced Class, Maggie Miles and Tedd Lodi share the Intermediate group, and Laura Bell runs the Beginner program; Nancy Marcucci leads the Advanced Conversation/Discussion Group; and Cal Krichmar the Intermediate Conversation Group. Thanks too to Aida Sahakian for leading the Salon de Conversation (French); to Jonathan Shiff who has been substituting for Dedda DeAngelis while she's in Italy, for the Italian Conversation group; and to Catalina Guerrero for her beginning Spanish group. We are searching for additional tutors for our one-on-one program (demand has increased lately), so, if you're interested in volunteering please let us know – we have resources to help you get started and appreciate your help.

Meanwhile, our Annual Appeal has brought in \$11,000 to date, to support the House. This is an on-going campaign and we are grateful for all levels of giving.

We also have convened a "Planning Committee" to look at goals and strategies for the House for the next 3 years. Led by consummate nonprofit consultant Deborah Langstaff, mem-

bers of the group include Bili Mason, Henry Majewski, Nadia Jensen, Dorothy McCulloch, Shontay Delalue, John Walker and myself. At this point we are working through a set of 7 goals and talking about how to best achieve them:

Goal 1 – International House is a viable, self-sustaining, thriving organization

Goal 2 – Board has actively involved, committed membership with increased ambassadorship for International House

Goal 3 – Building and grounds are maintained, up to code, handicap accessible

Goal 4 – Strong presence and visibility in community (marketing)

Goal 5 – Vibrant, well-attended programs

Goal 6 – Collaborations established with colleges and universities, and the administrators of international students and nationality groups

Goal 7 – Sufficient staffing capacity to support functioning and sustainability of International House

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Dr. Robert A. Silvestre presents ***Caravaggio: the Man, the Myth, the Master***. Michaelangelo Merisi Caravaggio, 1571-1610, was an Italian painter active in Rome, Naples, Malta, and Sicily. He is now thought to be one of the greatest painters of the Baroque period, if not the Renaissance. How was this person kept a secret for 300 years until his work was rediscovered in 1951 by Roberto Lunghi? This talk will shed light on the mystery of this gifted painter who influenced painters such as Rubens, Rembrandt, Breugel, Velazquez and many others.

June 17, 2016, from 6:00-8:00 pm

Festa Portugues a Portuguese Dinner created by chef Mike Laureanno. The meal will include ***Calde Verde*** (Kale soup); ***Pork Alentejana*** (pork loin, little necks, potatoes); ***Piri-Piri chicken*** (barbeque chicken); ***Saffron Portuguese rice with peas***; ***Fava Bean Salad***; ***Sweet Bread and Rice Pudding***. Tickets are \$25.00 for members; \$35.00 for non-members; \$15.00 for students. RSVP 401-421-7181 and please call early to reserve a spot!

In the Fall we will be hosting a “Save our House” event – due to code updates, we will have to invest resources in bringing our Victorian building up to current fire codes. Look for further notice and help save our wonderful establishment!

If you are not receiving our e-mail announcements (sent out at least every month) then please let us know – this is the way we update our events and remind you when they’re taking place. We may not have a current e-mail address for you, so help us to keep up-to-date with this...THANKS!

Board Emeritus

Dotty McCulloch has started a new effort to bring former Board members together to help on various projects around our House. The first meeting took place at Dotty’s lovely home and guests included Irene Capotosto, Ellen Collis, Elaine Meyrial, Tatiana Savchenko, Shirley Schreiber, and Barbara Sturtevant. We are excited about the potential projects this group will inaugurate to move us forward helping to insure our robust future.



World of Thanks Committee: Charley Otto, Kate Richardson, Risa Gilpin, Barbara Seidenath, Ruth Otto, John Walker

MEMBERSHIP AND CLASSES

Help us to spread the word about our International House and its programs and classes. Membership is open to anyone interested in other countries and cultures. Call today and join our global family – 401-421-7181. Please become a member: \$30.00 individual; \$45.00 family. Join now and save on our events. Our ESL classes; foreign language classes and clubs welcome new students at any time in the semester. We offer sessions for Beginners, Intermediate, and Advanced conversation groups. Visit our website at www.InternationalHouseofRI.org

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Internship –

Querida Balandran, our Met School intern, who is 15, has not only contributed her poetry and writings for our Facebook page, but she also gave a wonderful presentation to her peers and teachers at the Met School on March 10th, about her internship experience here at International House. This is one of the poems she wrote about her time here.

International House

Culture, Language, Colors galore
a unity too which I have not seen before
interaction undeterred
a circle of friendliness that gives a thrill
in a place of calm serenity
a place for new things to bloom
I sit with new eyes and open ears
as I see the beauty of communication
seeing graceful hands express unique emotions
this show I see before me gives me hope
hope that one day this world will have us all hand in hand
a peace in us of all races, cultures, and colors
this peaceful place I speak of is International House
a little niche that brings happiness to all those that encounter it

Welcome to our new members!

Ann Akroyd
Christopher Buononno
Yin Jiang
Paul Kappel
Erich Konrad
Dodromira Kostadinova
Dorothy and Terrance Martiesian
Christine Roundtree
Jampa Tenzing

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